(c) whether Government are aware that CRPF jeeps are being misused for bringing the personal staff of high officials in the Home Ministry; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to effect economy in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) Instructions have been issued by the Government that consumption of petrol and diesel in Government vehicles including staff cars should be reduced by 20 per cent compared to the consumption during the year 1989-90.

(b) The Staff Car Rules which regulate the use of staff cars, have the necessary provisions to ensure use of official vehicles for bonafide purpose. Instructions have recently been reiterated to take suitable steps against misuse of Government vehicles/staff cars.

(c) No such instance has come to notice of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(d) Does not arise.

Profits Earned by Nationalised Banks

1063. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the profit earned by the nationalised banks in the last financial year; and

(b) what steps are being taken to improve the performance of these banks?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The published profits of 19 out of the 20 nationalised banks who have finalised their accounts for the year 1989-90, aggregate to Rs. 239.73 crores.

(b) Government and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have taken series of measures to improve the performance and profitability of the public sector banks. These include augmentation of their capital, higher coupon rates on Government Securities, higher return on cash balances maintained with RBI. Banks have been advised by RBI to draw up action plans with a view to improving their operational efficiency. Banks have also been exhorted to take specific measures to maintain their viability and profitability by means of effective business planning and development. Besides, banks have taken certain measures for enhancing productivity and for effecting economy in expenditure etc.

Resource Transfers by Finance Commissions to Kerala

1064. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that while the Seventh Finance Commission had allocated to Kerala 3.70 per cent of the total resource transfer, the Eighth Finance Commission reduced it to 3.27 per cent and the the Ninth Finance Commission has further reduced it to 301 per cent thereby handing out a raw deal to the State of Kerala;

(b) if so, what corrective steps are being taken in this regard;

(c) whether his Ministry has received any memorandum from Kerala in this connection; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) In percentage terms, the share of Kerala in the total resource transfer was 3.70 per cent, 3.27 per cent and 3.25 per cent respectively under the recommendations of the Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Finance Commissions. The